

THE DAILY MISSOURIAN

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MEN IN THE MAKING

The task of making true, red-blooded, whole-souled American men is that of the Boy Scout movement in Columbia.

No other one thing has been of such great benefit to the youth of the world as the Boy Scout movement. Its founder is deserving of the heart-felt thanks of every American mother and father whose sons are coming under the direction of the scoutmaster.

One of the most convincing illustrations of what the Boy Scouts are capable of doing was their work during the fiftieth national encampment of the G. A. R. this fall in Kansas City. The Scouts acted as guides for the aged veterans, taking them to their places of abode and to their meetings.

During the parade they held back crowds which policemen were powerless to move, held up wavering veterans and marched by their sides until they had recovered, gave them water and conducted first aid stations—all of which they did with a touch of skill and experience.

The knowledge of woodcraft, first aid, and loyalty which the Scout receives surpasses that of many of his elders. His striving for scout honors builds unconsciously a character which is admirable.

The Scouts are real men in the making.

CONCERNING DIRECT PRIMARIES

Dissatisfaction with the direct primary system has brought the advocacy by some party leaders of the return to the nominating convention. Especially is this true of the Republicans of New York State.

Nominating conventions failed years ago. Not only have they not been representative but they cannot be made so. While the basis is theoretically democratic, practice has discounted the theory. It must be admitted that the direct primary system has not brought about the evils. It has failed to bring about the nomination of candidates wholly free from machine dictation.

Yet it has placed under popular authority. The system gets nearer the people than the convention ever could hope to. If machinery is to be used, it must be public rather than behind closed doors. Public opinion is allowed to express itself because the issue is always defined. The return to the convention would take away from the voters functions which they now exercise. Such a change comes not without difficulties.

A primary law without defects is yet to be devised. The tendency has been toward simplification. Any return to the complexities of the convention system puts control in the hands of the political boss, where it stood years ago, and wipes out all the good intentions and suggestions of the direct primary.

THE OPEN COLUMN

A public forum for the discussion of things worth-while. Articles should be short and signed by the writer, as proof to the editor of good faith. Signatures will not necessarily be published.

"Every Little Bit"

Editor of the Missouriian: Clothes as protection and not as ornaments and first aid to a good appearance are necessary at this time of the year. You probably have some last year's clothes which you do not care to wear. Many among the 300 poor persons of Columbia could use those clothes in this cold weather.

Make a bundle of the clothes you do not want and send them to the rooms of the Charity Organization in the Nowell Building. Don't delay, please. This is no weather for procrastination.

S. E. F.

THE NEW BOOKS

South America.

"South America: Study Suggestions," by Hary Erwin Bard, secretary of the Pan-American Society of the United States, is a helpful volume to those interested in the continent to the south. It will afford practical guidance and help to those who may desire to make wide preparation for visiting South America or to study in high school, college or university. The bibliography is quite complete.

(D. C. Heath & Co., Chicago; cloth, 68 pages.)

"Our Field and Forest Trees."

Books about trees describing the characteristics of individual species are many. Legends and folklore concerning trees have been delightfully told. But there are few books about the forests—still fewer which try to tell the high school scholar and the man in the street about the forests.

Maud Going, in "Our Field and Forest Trees," tells the story of the tree from the time nature plants the seed until the tree's maturity. Unlike most nature books, which began in the spring, this opens with the sowing of the seed in autumn, when the life of the tree really opens. The reader is then taken through all the stages of tree life and is told how a tree grows, how it lives and what the leaves are for, together with a lot of interesting tree and forest lore.

(A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago; cloth, 222 pages, illustrated.)

"Romance."

Two lectures delivered at Princeton University by Sir Walter Raleigh, professor of English literature in the University of Oxford, are bound in a single volume under the title, "Romance." The lectures have for subjects "The Origin of Romance" and "Imitation and Forgery" and discuss in a critical but attractive way romantic periods in English literature.

(Princeton University Press; cloth, 84 pages; \$1.)

Stephens College Notes

Miss Wilhelmina Bailey of the Christian College faculty was the guest of Miss Fanny May Ross at dinner Sunday.

Mrs. D. J. Adams, of Odessa, Mo., came Sunday to visit her daughter, Jessie.

Miss Virginia Ireson was called to her home at Stockton, Mo., Friday night by the illness of her father.

Dean W. W. Charters and Mrs. Charters were the dinner guests of President and Mrs. James M. Wood Sunday.

Miss Zella Carter spent the weekend at the home of her aunt, Mrs. John McClanahan.

Mrs. J. T. Hutcherson was the guest of Miss Martha Chambers at dinner Sunday.

Miss Loma Waitman, of the University, was the guest of Misses Doris Darrach and Grace Gambill Sunday.

Miss Ethel Pixlee was called to her home at Liberty, Mo., Monday by the serious illness of her mother.

Miss Blanche Hudson spent Sunday at the home of her aunt, Mrs. C. B. Bowling.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Kinyon were the guests of Miss Ardenia Chapman at dinner Sunday.

A recital of piano music was given Saturday afternoon by four pupils of Miss Fanny May Ross. Misses Rachel Griffith, Christine Stout, Laura Foster, and Minna Lee Ferree played.

Miss Violet Mitchell, who is a pupil of Miss Ross, gave a piano recital Wednesday afternoon. Miss Maybelle Calvert, a student in the voice department, assisted in the program.

President James M. Wood conducted the vespers services which were held in the college library Sunday evening. After his brief address Miss Josephine Barlow, of the Expression Department, read a Christmas story. The Stephens College Chorus sang several Christmas carols.

MAY PLAY "THE SILVER BOX"

Dramatic Club Hopes to Begin Rehearsals After Holidays.

Prof. and Mrs. J. E. Wrench entertained the participants in "The Magistrate" last night. Oscar Batson was elected temporary president of the Dramatic Club. "The Silver Box," by John Galsworthy, probably will be the next play presented. Tryouts will take place the first week after vacation. Those trying out will be eligible for membership in the club.

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BAND IS EDUCATIONAL FACTOR

Appears to Good Advantage in Program at M. U. Assembly.

By J. H. M.

The University Cadet Band is not a military band to be brought before the public only in case of a dress parade, nor is it only a concert band whose purpose it is to entertain with music of a high order. It is an educational factor in the University, and as such it appeared to good advantage last night. Mr. Venable must be commended for not catering to popular taste and for presenting music which is worthy of the dignity and standards of a higher institution of learning.

The band played in the most finished style the operatic overture to "Norma." It played with a precision of attack and with fine nuances which would be a credit to a professional organization. It likewise displayed its versatility in performing the grand and sonorous "Chorus of Romans" of Massenet and the dainty and ethereal "Air de Ballet" by the same French composer. The latter was expressly arranged by Mr. Venable. The oboist, whose services were acquired through a fortunate combination of circumstances, carried very effectively his solo passages in the "Egyptian Suite" and added a very characteristic tone coloring to the selection.

As an encore and final number was offered Fritz Kreisler's "Liebesfreud," which the composer himself played to a Columbia audience a little more than a year ago. This was also a special arrangement of Mr. Venable, who, at the same time, cleverly introduced several original touches. It proved itself better adapted to military band instrumentation than one with an acquaintance with the original violin solo would imagine.

The complete program was well balanced and creditably performed. It is the intention to present a similar program, with the addition of a soloist, in February.

M. U. TO ENTER PEACE CONTEST

Through Series of Meetings, the National Champion Will Be Chosen.

The University will be represented in the annual state intercollegiate peace contest, says Dr. F. E. Tisdell, professor of English. Although no definite announcement has been received from Dr. Elmer C. Griffith of William Jewell College, chairman of the Missouri association, it is thought that the contest will be held in the spring, as it has been in the past.

After the winner in the state competition has been selected, he will enter a contest with representatives from several states, and the winner of this will be pitted against the winners of several groups of states. In this manner the best collegiate orator of the United States is selected. Each student must write his own oration.

TWO AGRICULTURAL CLUBS MEET

Horticulture and Dairy Organizations Hear Music.

The horticulture and dairy clubs of the College of Agriculture held their first meeting for the year in the Horticulture Building last night. Talks were made by Professors J. C. Whitten and C. H. Eckles, Paul M. Robinett, president of the Horticulture Club, and E. L. Harmon, president of the Dairy Club. The Ag Quartet, composed of Clifford Trigg, Frank Gillette, David Banks and M. R. Dunn, furnished music.

M. L. Stockton and M. H. Fohrman were elected associate editors of the College Farmer. Refreshments were served.

Holiday Library Hours Announced.

H. O. Severance, University Librarian, has announced that the General Library will be open from 7:55 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening during the holidays. It will not be open, however, at night. The Law Library will be open each day from 9 to 12 o'clock in the morning and from 2 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Y. M. C. A. Men Have Christmas Party.

The men of the Y. M. C. A. Building gave their annual Christmas party last night. Songs were sung, and several speeches made. Refreshments were served. An electric coffee pot was given as a Christmas gift to Mrs. S. T. Bratton, matron of the dormitory.

Pictures

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1915 GRADUATE PRAISED HIGHLY

R. J. Howat Leads Community Life As Saline County Agent.

"It isn't a man's age, but what he can do, that counts," is the sentiment of the farmers of Saline County who whole-heartedly indorse the work, as county agent, of Robert John Howat, B. S. Agr., 1915.

The leading article in the issue of December 5 of the Missouri Ruralist, "What's a County Agent Worth?" by John Francis Case, praises highly the accomplishments of the Missouri graduate in Saline County. Of Howat's Work Case writes:

"Howat went into every township in the county organizing boys' and girls' clubs, talking corn show and sale for 1916, boosting the poultry business, preaching sanitation and cholera control—in fact, making of himself the community leader that a county needs. He treated 1,700 bushels of

seed for smut this year, and I believe that the saving from this one item would pay his salary. He and his assistant tested 150 samples of seed for purity or germination, planned rations for 3,578 head of stock, held 124 meetings with a total attendance of 8,909, paid 784 farm visits, wrote 3,521 communications and prepared 130 news articles."

J. L. Wood Heads Agricultural Club. The Agricultural Club elected their officers last night for the second semester: President, J. L. Wood; vice-president, C. R. Trigg; secretary, S. Conrades; treasurer, B. R. Brown; sergeant-at-arms, William Louell. Prof. E. A. Trowbridge outlined the plans for the Farmers' Banquet, which will be given January 5.

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